# THE EXCITER

***Published Free of Charge Monthly by The San Antonio Radio Club. Regular Meetings are Held First and Third Friday's of Each Month, Gunter Hotel. Visitors Always Welcome.***

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## MEET THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

Since we only recently started sending the club paper to all the hams in San Antonio, many of you may not be familiar with the San Antonio Radio Club even though it has been in existence since way back around 1916 and we hear tell that it is the oldest club in the state. The present club officers aren't old enough to know by personal experience just when it got underway, but we are sure that it has served many good purposes during its years of operations and is, we believe, vitally interested in Ham radio, the welfare of each individual ham in the area as well as the welfare of amateur radio as a whole. Besides trying to protect the interests of all the amateur fraternity in the changing times which have brought us face to face with such monsters as radio interference (remember), natural disasters, television interference (boy, what a headache this has been), tower height restrictions (we have just started to struggle with this one) and many, many others, the club is also a social organization for the enjoyment of association with fellow amateurs under what we try to make ideal conditions. The club goes in big for Field Day and was up to number 7 in the nation last year. It sponsors a Christmas party every year as well as other parties, picnics, hamfests, and transmitter hunts. It encourages its members to take part in operating events on the air and to keep up with the times in their equipment. It tries to keep the amateur group informed on what is going on that may affect them. It also encourages emergency communications and has an emergency net that meets once a week.

To help meet these goals the club has a meeting twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Gunter Hotel usually in the Cactus Room. At these club meetings, we have a business session at which announcements are made and matters of interest to amateur radio and the club are discussed. This is followed by a program which we try to make interesting to the widest possible number of the group. We try to keep the business meeting as short as possible consistent with having it serve its stated purpose. The program is usually a talk by a qualified person on a subject of interest to amateurs. It may be technical, a demonstration of some new gadget or rig, a discussion of operating techniques, or many other things that the group is interested in hearing or doing. We try to announce the program in advance through this paper whenever possible, but whether announced or not, you can be assured of a good one.

The club sponsored the ARRL West Gulf Division Convention last year and this was very successful and made the tremendous efforts of the few individuals who did most of the work seem worthwhile. We have been told by many that it was the best amateur convention that they had ever attended and it certainly was the largest West Gulf Convention that has been held. The club made a nice profit from this affair and the funds are now resting in the SARC savings account waiting for a worthwhile project to come along on which they should be spent. Some of the group think that a club house would be the

ideal thing on which to spend the money but others are not so sure. What do you think? It would be a lot of work but it could be worthwhile. Would you be willing to help? Meanwhile the money is drawing interest and is not going to waste.

The SARC is interested in all phases of amateur radio. Just take a look at the varied interests of the club officers for example.

The president is Derwin King, W5-LUU, who gets a bang out of working DX, VHF, and contests. His time is almost equally divided between fone (A3 and SSB) and CW and can be found most often on 20 meters though he also regularly works 40, 15, 10, and 2. He likes to experiment, has all home built equipment except the RX, handles a lot of person to person traffic to overseas stations, and is a member of AF MARS. He runs a KW on the lower frequencies, 100 watts on 2 and has 2 element beams for 10, 15, and 20, a 10 element for 2 and a doublet and vertical for 40 and 75. He works as an electronics engineer at Southwest Research Institute.

The Vice-President, Theo Jett W5-0ZQ, has a keen interest in mobile operation on 75. Likes to build equipment, has an 813 rig for the lower frequencies and a converted command transmitter for the auto, is a whiz at transmitter hunting, operates 2 meters with a 75 watt rig, has a big 2 meter beam, a 3 element for 10 and a trap doublet for the lower frequencies. Theo is also an active AF MARS member and works for SP Railroad as a communications equipment specialist.

"Red" Chastain, K5GUH, is the club secretary. He is a rag chewing type of 75 meter SSB operator who handles a lot of traffic and meets several traffic nets. He is really sold on SSB and uses a 10B to drive a pair of 811's. He has done a lot of work on phone patches and has had lots of mobile experience. He spends a lot of time teaching radio theory classes for the benefit of those not so fortunate as to have a license yet. He is in the Air Force out at Randolph.

"Money Bags," the treasurer, John Breitler, W5CTL, operates mostly 2 meters at the present but gets a big kick out of planning and building some of the most beautiful and precise rigs and other equipment that we have ever seen. He uses a converted 522 on 2 with a low noise homebuilt converter and has a long Yagi about 50 feet up in the air. He has a Johnson Navigator that he just finished putting together which will be an exciter for a new final using a pair of 4-400 A's, or some such bottles, which is now underway. He is active in AF MARS and works for Dictaphone.

The Sergeant-at-Arms, "Chuck" Bernier, K5DMK, likes to operate fone and spends a lot of time rag chewing on the lower frequency bands. He has a homebuilt 813 rig on which he has investigated final tank circuits at length. "Chuck" also serves as chair-

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man of the TVI committee and works for the SP Railroad as Wire Chief.

We believe you, as an amateur, will find something of interest in the San Antonio Radio Club and I am sure that you can contribute greatly to the betterment of the club by bringing your ideas of what you would like to see done and helping contribute to getting it done. Visitors are welcome and the doors are always open for new members. The San Antonio Radio Club is going places and would like to be a club for all of the more than 600 amateurs in San Antonio, so why not come on down and see us. We will be glad to see all of you. The next meetings are May 2 and 16. 73.

## MOBILE

*by Gene Janks W5EJT*

There has been some activity on 75 but a lot of the old timers seem to be missing. Saw W5VI traveling down the street the other day but he didn't answer. W5JBF is on 75 and W5FQA looking for contacts in the morning. K5PIB Newt is sporting a new communicator III on six and making some nice contacts.

There will be a transmitter hunt starting at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 4th. The hunters will all start from the South end of Olmos Park at the creek. The freq. will be 3855. Bring your picnic baskets and cold 807s, for a picnic at the site of the hidden transmitter.

## LADIES SARC

Bon Voyage, Jo! Jo and the boys left April 12th for the Far East to join John (W5DKK). On March 28th a party was given in her honor at the Jank's residence. Co-hostesses were Kathy King, and Jeannine Wangler. Gladys Jordan has been helping her sister in the Pet Shop. Our studious girls will try for their General class license in May. Best of luck! Ray Pena of Bache & Company will speak to our club May 2nd on "The stock market and how it works." May 16th we will elect new officers. Our special "Orchid" this month goes to Leona and Cole Crump. We were entertained in royal style. All guests were required to be in Tackey Costumes. Prizes were awarded to Red Chastain for the man's costume, Neline Jett for the ladies, and Theo and Neline Jett as the "couple with the worstest." See you next issue.

Neline

## GUTTER DOPE

Who is Carrot Top. The Kilanders (W5BGT) spent Easter week-end in Corpus Christi fishing. A new novice class at the YMCA starts May 2nd. A new ham (W5JBS) from Mississippi City, Miss. has entered our fair city. His handle is Tex. The Robert Wilsons have moved into their new home on Caladium.

Willard W5FND says he has a new motto "Have tower will move."

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MARION W5DBN DON K5GYJ

John Breitler W5CTL has a new tower up with a two meter beam on it.

Allen Dirst KN5PVI is a proud "papa." The harmonic's name is Keith Allen Dirst.

## DX

*by W5LUU*

ZD7SA has been active on 28050 CW and also on fone around 28350 in the afternoons. Should give a much needed St. Helena QSO to many of the gang.

I think most of the local gang worked KC4AF, Navassa Is., when they were there on the DXpedition at the end of March. Hope you got him if you need that country.

UN1KAA has been active on 20 CW with VFO. LUU worked him on 14125 around midnight CST but has heard him on other frequencies. VK9JF, Cocos-Keeling Is., has been putting in a 59 A3 sig around 0700 CST on 14162.

Still been concentrating on 20 SSB and good ones for the past month are VS4JT (59, 14310, 0750), W5RYG/KG6 (59, 14285, 0730 and 0200) from San Antonio and he is anxious to work back here, OHONC (57, 14325, 0035 CST) Aland Is., KAOSC (59, 14290, 0200 CST) Iwo Jima. Also have often heard CR9AH, VS6, VS1, and DU7 in mornings around 14310. Heard W5BLA and K5GLT knocking off some DX using SSB on 20. BLA was using HT-32, HT-33 combo and GLT was doing FB with a 20A barefoot. FZA has been quite active on 20 CW and really getting out.

Am still keeping skeds at 0700 with John Hunt, W5DKK, who now operates KR6AF and who will have his own station, KR6JR, in operation very shortly. He is anxious to work other San Antonio stations and usually works SSB on 14340 and listens around 14285. Also on 28660-80 and on high end of 15. He prefers SSB but can still read regular A3. Give him a call sometime.

How about reports from other locals who are working DX? Would like to know who you are, what bands you work, what you use, as well as who you may have worked. My fone is DI 2-5100.

## PROGRAM

May 2: Dave Cadena, W5FAR, will talk on "Transistorized Power Convertors" and demonstrate some of these little gems that make vibrators and dynamotors obsolete.

## SSB

*Red K5GUH*

Side band news is narrow this month. I read last month that SSB DX was good on 20M—Well 75M is no slouch, there was some guy in north Texas on the other night. That's a long way according to the Texas world map.

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